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Message Text

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42
ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-20 STR-08

TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 FEA-02 OMB-01

SAM-01 IO-14 DRC-01 /196 W
---------- 041704
R 261500Z FEB 74
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8586
INFO USMISSION BRUSSELS
USMISSION OECD PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMCONGEN ZAGREB UNN
AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, EC, YO
SUBJ: EC BAN ON YUGOSLAV BEEF EXPORTS CRITICIZED

1. LOCAL PRESS HAS EXPRESSED SURPRISE AND DIDKNF ABOUT EC DECISION BANNING IMPORTS OF FRESH AND FROZEN BEEF FROM NON-MEMBERS COUNTRIES INTO ITALY AND FRANCE FOR PERIOD OF ONE MONTH. YUGOSLAVIA IS TERMED COUNTRY MOST SERIOUSLY AFFECTED.

2. ARTICLES COMPLAIN THAT, CONTRARY TO EEC-YUGOSLAVIA LONG TERM
AGREEMENT, COMMISSION FAILED TO CONSULT YUGOSLAVIA BEFORE DECISION TAKEN, AND EXPRESS CONCERN ABOUT "RUMORS" THAT BAN MAY BE EXTENDED.

3. ISSUE WILL CONSTITUTE "ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT" ASPECT OF ROME
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TRADE DISCUSSIONS BEGINNING FEBRUARY 26 BETWEEN FOREIGN TRADE

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SECRETARY
LUDVIGER AND ITALIAN MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE MATTEOTTI,
PAPERS REPORT.

4. "OFFICIAL" COMMENT AND ABOVE ALL REPORT ON MEASURES TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY YUGOSLAV SIDE" WILL NOT BE PROVIDED UNTIL ALL DETAILS ARE KNOWN.

5. COMMENT: IF AS YUGOSLAVS NOW ASSUME-BAN COVERS LIVE CATTLE AND BABY BEEF SHIPMENTS, IT WOULD AFFECT OVER 75,000 TONS OF ANNUAL YUGOSLAV EXPORT TO ITALY WORTH ABOUT $120 MILLION LAST YEAR. (SHIPMENTS TO FRANCE ARE NOT LARGE.) ANY EXTENDED COMPREHENSIVE BAN OF THIS SORT WOULD BE REAL BLOW TO YUGOSLAV FOREIGN TRADE ACCOUNT, ALREADY HARD PRESSED DUE TO STEEPLY RISING BILL FOR IMPORTED OIL. IT WOULD BE FURTHER SIGNIFICANT COMPLICATION IN YUGOSLAV RELATIONS WITH EEC IN MEAT EXPORT REA, FOLLOWING EC FAILURE TO OFFER COMPENSATION FOR INCREASED BRITISH
IMPORT DUTIES (SEE BELGRADE 0680).
JOHNSON

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NNN

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